

# Questions and Answers from PySAM Workshop 2020, October 14, 2020

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For a link to the webinar recording and supporting materials, see <https://sam.nrel.gov/software-development-kit-sdk.html>.

**So PySAM is different than the normal SAM software...works with Python.**

Both PySAM and the SAM application access the same underlying libraries. SAM is basically a user interface that gives you access to the libraries via a graphical user interface, while PySAM is a Python package that gives you programmatic access.

**Can I do subsystems? Like I need specific number of pv modules for a certain use and another number of pv for other purpose and then connect them.**

SAM supports subarrays if that's all you need to change. If you wanted totally separate systems, you could run two separate modules and then sum their outputs (like "gen") prior to running the financial models, assuming all of that is appropriate for what you're trying to model. A common example of this would be a PV-Wind hybrid system, with a common grid interconnection.

**Can we access the supplier catalog parameters of component through pySAM?**

For example, for PV, <https://github.com/NREL/SAM/tree/develop/deploy/libraries>.

**What is Generate Code > PySAM JSON as compared to JSON for inputs?**

"JSON for inputs" generates a flat file with all of the variables, whereas "PySAM JSON" splits it up into multiple files that correspond to each unit module.

**What was that pip command again?**

```
pip install nrel-pysam==2.1.5.dev3
```

**Where is that file?**

<https://github.com/NREL/pysam/tree/master/Examples>

**Say, I saved .json from SAM GUI, how would I open it in PySAM?**

<https://nrel-pysam.readthedocs.io/en/master/Import.html>